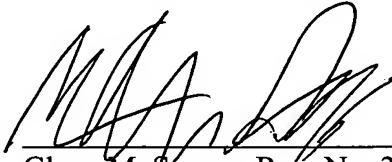


### REMARKS

With this Preliminary Amendment, Applicant has cancelled claims 1-32, and has added claims 33-64. Applicant has also amended the specification to claim priority to prior Application Serial No. 09/976,660, filed October 10, 2001.

Examination of the claims in due course is respectively requested. Applicant respectfully submits that all pending claims are in condition for allowance, issuance of a Notice of Allowance in due course is requested. If a telephone conference might be of assistance, please contact the undersigned attorney at (612) 677-9050.

Date:

Dec. 31, 2001 

Glenn M. Seager, Reg. No. 36,926

Customer No. 28075

CROMPTON, SEAGER & TUFTE, LLC

1221 Nicollet Avenue, Suite 800

Minneapolis, Minnesota 55403-2420

Telephone: (612) 677-9050

Facsimilie: (612) 359-9349